

Making a decision about your pregnancy

State of Alaska > Health & Social Services > Informed Consent

Overview

This website was created to provide women with basic, medically accurate information to help them make informed decisions about their pregnancy options. You will find information on fetal development, abortion, pregnancy and childbirth here. You also will find a resource directory of pregnancy-related social and health services in Alaska.

Alaska law requires your doctor to discuss with you the information described in this website before performing an abortion. You must have a chance to ask questions and discuss your pregnancy decision before an abortion can be performed. It is illegal for a health care provider to perform any medical or surgical procedure without first obtaining the informed consent of the patient.

You may view the [entire text of the law](#) online.

You are the only individual with the right to decide whether or not to continue your pregnancy, to become a parent, or to make an adoption plan for your child.

This web site is confidential. No one from the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services will collect or record any information about your use of this site.

A panel of medical experts was appointed by the Alaska State Board of Medicine to review and approve the accuracy of medical information presented on this website. This review was completed and approved on May 20, 2005 and was based on current medical research and literature. In June 2010, the site was reviewed and updated again.

About this site

- [AS 18.16.](#)
[Regulation of Abortions](#)
- [SB 30](#)

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Disclaimers

Disclaimer Regarding Medical Advice:

All material on this Website including text, graphics, images and information available on or through this Website are public information or summaries of generally accepted information. This is not an exhaustive review of pregnancy. There are potential complications that may not be listed on this website. There is additional information regarding pregnancy and/or pregnancy termination that is beyond the scope of this discussion. Please refer to the reference lists for additional information. This information is presented only for general informational purposes. It is not intended to be a substitute for professional medical advice, diagnosis, or treatment for any reproductive health issue or questions that you may have.

Disclaimer Regarding Graphic or Sensitive Nature of Information:

This website and its links may contain graphic descriptions and/or sensitive photographs or drawings related to fetal development, which may not be suitable for young children. Parental discretion is advised.

The Alaska Department of Health and Social Services would like to acknowledge the following contributions to this publication:

- "If you are pregnant: information on fetal development, abortion and alternatives", Minnesota Department of Health; <http://www.health.state.mn.us/wrtk/index.html>
- "A woman's right to know", Texas Department of Health; <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/wrtk/default.shtm>

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Abortion Providers:

- [Download a signature form](#) by which a person may indicate review of the website content.